

Message Text

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51

ACTION EUR-25

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FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3966

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OTRA, PINT, NL

SUBJ: CONGRESSMAN HANRAHAN'S INTEREST IN KVP LEADER
ANDRIESSEN'S VISIT TO US

REF: STATE 148522

1. FOR DEPARTMENT'S BACKGROUND, KVP PARLIAMENTARY LEADER ANDRIESSEN, WITH THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF HIS PARTY COLLEAGUE GENERAL VAN ELSSEN, CHAIRMAN OF THE SECOND CHAMBER'S DEFENSE COMMITTEE, HAD EXPRESSED INTEREST IN VISITING US IN AUGUST FOR TALKS WITH PENTAGON OFFICIALS ABOUT REPLACEMENT FIGHTER QUESTION AND FOR FIRSTHAND LOOK AT NORTHROP AND GENERAL DYNAMICS PLANTS AND TALKS WITH THEIR OFFICIALS. GENERAL VAN ELSSEN WAS PREPARED TO ACCOMPANY ANDRIESSEN. PROBLEM WAS THAT THESE TWO PARLIAMENTARY LEADERS DID NOT HAVE AVAILABLE EITHER GON OR PERSONAL FUNDS TO COVER EITHER INTERNATIONAL OR DOMESTIC US TRANSPORTATION COSTS.

2. EMBASSY EXPLAINED TO ANDRIESSEN THAT ALTHOUGH WE FULLY SUPPORTED PURPOSE OF HIS TRIP WE THOUGHT IT UNLIKELY THAT DEPARTMENT OF STATE WOULD BE ABLE TO FUND TRANSPORTATION COSTS, ESPECIALLY SINCE ANDRIESSEN VISITED THE US IN 1971 UNDER THE IVP. AN INFORMAL CHECK WITH THE DOD (VIA NAVY SECRETARY MIDDENDORF'S OFFICE) HAS NOT SO FAR YIELDED THE DESIRED RESULT OF OFFICIAL
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US FUNDING FOR THE TRIP. EMBASSY HAS EXPLAINED THIS TO

BOTH ANDRIESSEN AND VAN ELSSEN, NOTING INABILITY OF US TO FUND CURRENT VISIT OF FOUR-NATION TEAM OF HIGH-LEVEL TECHNICAL AVIATION EXPORTS. ANDRIESSEN AND VAN ELSSEN ACCEPTED THE OUTCOME WITH GOOD GRACE AND AGREED WITH THE EMBASSY THAT IT WOULD BE UNWISE FOR THEM TO ACCEPT AN OFFER OF FREE TRANSPORTATION BY EITHER NORTHROP OR GENERAL DYNAMICS, IF SUCH WERE MADE.

3. IF BY ANY CHANCE USG FUNDS BECOME AVAILABLE, ANDRIESSEN AND VAN ELSSEN WOULD PROBABLY LIKE TO RESCHEDULE THEIR VISIT. ANDRIESSEN IS OUT OF THE COUNTRY ON VACATION UNTIL THE END OF JULY BUT VAN ELSSEN CAN BE REACHED ON SHORT NOTICE. ANDRIESSEN WILL IN ANY EVENT BE APPRISED OF REPRESENTATIVE HANRAHAN'S KIND INVITATION TO INCLUDE A VISIT TO THE VILLAGE OF SOUTH HOLLAND, ILLINOIS. CONSISTENT WITH OUR POLICY OF PROMOTING CLOSER PARLIAMENTARY CONTACTS, WE WILL ENCOURAGE ANDRIESSEN TO AVAIL HIMSELF OF THIS INVITATION THE NEXT TIME HE IS IN THE US.
TANGUY

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